ACROSS HIS PATH

ELL, my lad, it's good to have you back once more" "Thanks, Uncle Harvey; it's very

kind of you to say so." "Are you really better?"

"Sound as a drum! Never felt better in my life. There is nothing like

New Zealand air, after all." "So I should judge!" exclaimed Sir Hervey Ralston, a world of affection in eye and voice, as he surveyed the

sunburnt face before him. "Talking of health, you don't look much amiss yourself, Uncle Hervey; which, under the circumstances, is not surprising."

Sir Henry found his sunny smile infectious. "Perhaps not. You will be able to judge for yourself this evening. There is a function at Lady Wolverton's, and, although I am sorry it occurs on the night of your return, I thought you would prefer to

Stifling his disappointment, Ralston rejoined: "By all means, Uncle Hervey. I would not have you change your plans on my account for the world. Besides which, I am anxious to make the acquaintance of my future aunt.

Sir Henry laughed. "I never looked at it in that light before. She is younger than you, my boy."

"And so are you in many ways," retorted Ralston, stoutly. "You are a generation younger than most men of 45, Uncle Hervey. You know you are."

The deprecating, almost wistful look called forth by his words was not lost upon the younger man, who hastened to aver: "I was desperately glad to hear your piece of news; found the letter waiting for me at Santa Cruz. You are much too good to die a bachelor, so I shall kick my heels with a light heart at your wedding, notwithfor yours to command."

The laugh with which he ended was not a natural one, and his lips quivered under the fair mustache. The undivided affection of many years' standing, affection that between uncle and nephew was almost unique, was undivided no longer.

A drive of half an hour brought them to Sir Hervey's house.

"H'm!" observed Ralston, with a glance at the newly painted front. "Festive arrangements beginning early. Which is the happy day?"

"The sixth of April," replied Sir Hervey, leading the way into the

"And this is the tenth of February; it will be here in no time." "I am glad you are back before April,

lad. I began to think Dunedin was to claim you as a permanency, and I seem restless to-night." want you as best man for the occa-Bion. Hugh Ralston's eyes shone with

pride. "I feel honored, Uncle Hervey. Any pretty bridesmaids to the fore?" "You will probably meet one or two of them this evening. We have not much time to lose. You know your

room.' Lady Wolverton's receptions were always well attended. In her position as queen of society in which she moved she had been ably seconded by her daughter, Adelaide, whose engagement to Sir Hervey Ralston she viewed with unalloyed delight. His immense wealth was an undisputed fact, their own property being known only to mother and daughter. How much of the achievement of Sir Hervey's desire had been due to the maternal pressure brought to bear upon the girl was not realized by the latter herself, so subtle and ingenious

1

had Lady Wolverton's tactics been. "Now for the fray," murmured young Ralston as they mounted the staircase; "the usual crush is evidently in store."

They had entered the reception room, and there, standing under the friendly light of a hanging lamp, Ralston saw the most beautiful girl he had ever in his life beheld.

"Ah!" exclaimed Sir Hervey, the blood coursing through his veins with a rapidity almost boyish. "Come. Hugh, and let me have the pleasure of presenting you; it is one to which I have long looked forward."

Adelaide Wolverton had seen them come for the nephew about whom she had heard so much.

"And this is 'Hugh,'" she said. "You must not expect me to call you anything else, for your name has become a household word among us, has take it so to heart. I shall get over it not?" She turned to Sir Hervey, it, and you-you will be happy, as you who met the shy, sweet glance with one of gratitude. That these two, whom he loved better than all the world besides, should be friends, was his one desire—a desire that seemed likely to be fulfilled as the evening wore away.

some two hours later, "that you do not look upon me as an interloper. I was desperately afraid of you before from these seven corn-growing states I saw you."

you fear in me?" he asked.

sonable, are they not?" "So I should imagine."

delightful. Then you do not bear me Four-Track News.

Ralston looked at the upturned face and rejoined: "Ill will? How could She knew, and knew also that Raiston iter.

was aware of her knowledge, that their meeting had proved no ordinary their meeting had proved a love that would never sleep again.

her fan, "your emotion is due merely to gratitude. Mr. Ralston, how long have you been away from England?"

The change of tone and subject was not lost upon Ralston. They had been treading on delicate ground, and, thankful for the deviation, he replied: 'Two years this month, but it seems like four-I have seen and done so much in the time."

Turning to the girl beside him he noted the shade of bitterness that had crept over her face, and somehow as he looked he knew that she was not happy in her engagement. A wave of pity for Sir Hervey welled up in his heart, for the baronet idolized his young betrothed.

"Sir Hervey Ralston, honorable and clear-souled himself, incapable of subterfuge or pretense, was never ready to imagine evil of any shape in others. And if during the weeks that followed it seemed to him that Adelaide grew more and more impassive, while a spirit of unrest had seized upon his nephew, he strove to see no manner of connection.

And what about Hugh? At one and the same time had the gates of heaven and hell been opened to him, and he reveled in his bliss, only to writhe in the agony involved. No words on the subject had he and Adelaide exchanged, thus far they had been loyal to Sir Hervey. But Hugh smiled bitterly as he acknowledged to himself the limitations of that loyalty. None knew better than he the subtlety of love's confessions.

On the evening of the last day in March he waited nervously for his uncle's approach to the smoking-room, which had been the scene of many a confidential talk before his voyage to New Zealand. Sir Hervey's step seemed to have lost its lightness, or so it seemed to Hugh, as he listened to forward with sweet anticipation. its drawing near. He was later, too, standing the back seat now in store in joining him than was his wont. Had any suspicion crossed his mind? Were his thoughts of next week's happiness unalloyed, or were they shadowed by a vague yet unmistakable cloud?

Hugh Ralston wondered, but said nothing as his uncle entered the room. The latter, with his usual precision and neatness, lit a cigar, seated himself, and was soon engrossed in the pages of the evening paper.

Thankful to escape the customary evening chat, Hugh paced monotonously up and down the room, with temples throbbing and the blood surging through his veins. How could he broach the subject that to-night must be faced once and for all?

"My dear boy," said Sir Hervey at length, glancing over the top of his paper, "could you not sit down? You

Hugh dropped into the nearest chair. Silence reigned for full five minutes, a silence that Ralston broke by saying, with the composure born of despair: "I cannot stand England after all. Uncle Hervey. I am off again next Saturday. You can do without me on the sixth, can you not?" He laughed a little curiously as he added: "I am hardly a necessary part of the play."

Sir Hervey folded his newspaper, laid it on the table and deliberately adjusted his glasses before looking in his nephew's direction. "Do I understand you aright? You prefer not to be with me on the day of my marriage?'

Hugh Ralston bowed his head. Sir Hervey rose from his chair and instinctively the younger man did the same, a movement that brought them face to face as the words: "You dare not be with me!" broke from the bar-

onet's lips. The eyes of the two men met, and the soul of each was read. Then as Hugh leaned on the mantelpiece, burying his face on his arms, with a groan, it was the elder man who proved the strong- CATTLE-Common .\$2 50 @ 3 65 er, who first brought light into the

darkness that had descended. Hugh was conscious at last of the pressure of a hand upon his shoulder. and as through a vast space and time he heard the voice of Sir Hervey saying: "It is well, my boy. I am not worthy of her, and might not-and should not-have made her happy. You must not blame yourself; far from it. I am going now to Lady Wolverton's and-will-release her." The last words were wrung from lips and was ready with a gracious we!- that were growing pale. Sir Hervey walked slowly to the door. Hugh had never moved.

> Turning round as his fingers closed over the handle, the uncle said, imploringly: "Don't, my lad! Don't deserve to be."

> > Corn, Corn, Corn.

Were the corn of the seven states loaded on wagons, 40 bushels to the load, and placed so the heads of the horses would come just to the rear end-board "Tell me," said Adelaide Wolverton of the preceding wagon, and it were possible for this line of march to cover the land and sea, an average year's crop would make a complete belt of corn wag-Ralston laughed. "And what did ons six times around the world. Place the crop of 1902 in cars holding 500 "I feared your jealousy," was the bushels each, and allow 40 feet for car prompt reply, "for I knew how much and coupling, and we would have a conyou and Sir Hervey had been to each tinuous freight train 38,378 miles long. other. Jealous people are so unrea- After considering these figures one readily believes that, in the list of cereals, HOGS-Western corn stands first in point of acreage, 'Ah, the conditional mood. That is yield and value.-Walter H. Olin, in

When His Troubles Will Begin. A Chinaman has been made a lieutenbear you anything but the very re- ant in a California regiment. His trou-Verse?" With grandiloquence he tried bles will begin, says the Chicago Recordto cover his embarrassment, but Ade- Herald, when he goes around to ask laide Wolverton was not deceived, the council's consent to marry his daugh-

"I see," she said, slowly unfurling Unusual Assortment of Cases Taken to Court for Settlement.

> Indian Asks \$5,000 from Government for Foreing Him to Cut His Hair -Damages for Loss of a Dinner.

To sue or not to sue is a problem which seems to divide civilized humanity into two distinct divisions-those who have a horror of courts and lawyears, and those who rush into lawsuits on the smallest provocation.

Recently the Indian department at Washington decided that paint and long hair are not henceforth to be worn by Indians on the reservations, an euict which aroused no little discontent among the tamed redskins, who at least hoped to be allowed to go down to their graves after the fashion of their savage forefainers.

Of course there was nothing for them but to obey, but Aqua His, a fullblooded savage of the Yuma tribe, does not intend to let the matter rest there. He has had his hair cut, but he is suing the United States government in the superior court at San Diego, Cal., for \$5,000 compensation.

It is doubtful if he will be as successful as was an Englishman who, some months ago, got \$25 from a Leeds barber because the artist of the lather cut off the "tyke's" mustache for a joke while the latter was sleeping, under the influence of the cup that inebriates, in the barber's chair. The case did not reach the courts, but was settled between the parties.

Not long ago a Frenchman took a train to be present at a family dinner to which he had been invited; but the train straggled in late, and so prevented the hungry man from enjoying the meal, to which he had no doubt looked

He claimed damages from the company for the loss of his dinner, and the Paris Tribunal of Commerce awarded him the substantial amount of \$8 as compensation.

Broken engagements frequently enough result in actions for breach of promise. Take, for example, the case of Clarence Manuel, who handed in at a Louisville, Ky., post office a telegram which was addressed to his sweetheart, Miss Bryant, inviting her to meet him in Louisville. The telegrapher altered Louisville to Nashville, with the result that Miss Bryant journeyed to the lastnamed town to keep the appointment.

The natural result was that the lovers did not meet, and for Manuel the consequence was disastrous-Miss Bryant refused to wed him. So the man sued the telegraphist, placing a cash value of \$2,000 upon his lost love. The court ruled, however, that he had sued the wrong party, and Manuel lost his

Genoa courts a photographer named Ricci, and the damages she claims amount to \$15,000. The lady was engaged to be married, but her husbandto-be refused to wed her, because Ricci, who took the laly's photograph some time since, published it as a pictorial post card.

Thousands of cards were sold in al. parts of Italy and elsewhere on the continent, Ricci, it is said, reaping a handsome profit. Because of the publicity thus given to the lady, who, it may be mentioned, is very beautiful her fiance severed their engagement, and Signorina Frate consequently commenced the action for damages. But the photographer's contention is that the photo was published with the lady's consent.

MARKET REPORT.

Cincinnati, Feb. 27.

Heavy steers 4 35 @ 4 75 CALVES-Extra @ 6 50 HOGS-Ch. packers.. 5 75 @ 5 80 @ 5 65 Mixed packers 5 35 SHEEP—Extra 4 40 LAMBS-Extra FLOUR-Spring pat. 5 30 @ 5 65 WHEAT-No. 2 red. @ 1 11 No. 3 winter @ 1 021/2 48 CORN-No. 2 mixed. @ 411/2 OATS-No. 2 mixed. RYE—No. 2 HAY—Ch. timothy... @13 00 @18 50 PORK-Clear family. LARD-Steam @ 8 00 BUTTER-Ch. dairy. 12 28 Choice creamery ... @ 4 00 APPLES—Choice POTATOES-Per bbl 3 00 @ 3 25 TOBACCO-New ... 5 05 @12 50 Old 4 40 @14 50 Chicago. FLOUR-Winter pat. 5 10 @ 5 20 WHEAT—No. 2 red. 1 00½@ 1 09¼ No. 3 spring 97 @ 1 04 No. 3 spring CORN-No. 2 mixed. OATS-No. 2 mixed. RYE—No. 2 75 @ 76 PORK—Mess16 00 @16 12½ PORK—8 00 LARD—Steam 7 75 @ 8 00 New York. FLOUR-Win. st'rts. 5 00 @ 5 25 WHEAT-No. 2 red. @ 1 09 58 551/2 CORN-No. 2 mixed.

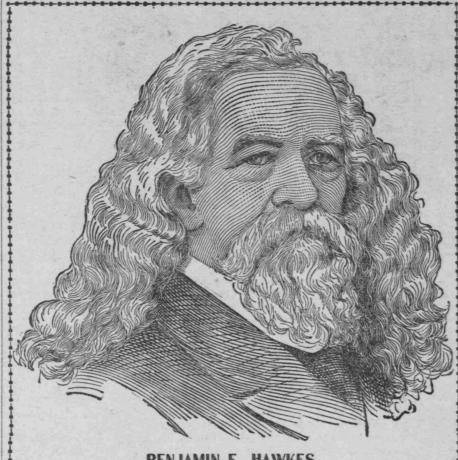
@ RYE—Western @ 823 POrK—Family16 50 @17 00 825 @ 8 75 LaRD-Steam Baltimore. WHEAT-No. 2 red. @ 1 10 533/4 43 CORN-No. 2 mixed. @ OATS-No. 2 mixed. CATTLE-Steers ... 4 80 @ 5 15 @ 6 25 Louisville. WHEAT-No. 2 red. @ 1 08 53 45½ @ CORN-No. 2 mixed. OATS-No. 2 mixed.

OATS-No. 2 mixed.

FORK-Mess @15 50 LARD-Steam @ 7 25 Indicaapolis. WHEAT-No. 2 red. @ 1 08 CORN-No. 2 mixed. 45 OATS-, No. 2 mixed.

COMRADE OF GENERAL GRANT

Says: "I Do Not Believe Pe-ru-na Has a Superior for Catarrh."



BENJAMIN F. HAWKES.

Benjamin F. Hawkes, of Washington, D. C., Is One of the Three Living Comrades of General Grant in His Cadet Days at West Point.

In a recent letter from 611 G street, S. W., Washington, D. C., this venerable gentleman says of Peruna:

"I have tried Peruna after having tried in vain other remedies for catarrh, and I can say without reservation that I never felt a symptom of relief until I had given Peruna the simple trial that its advocates advise. I do not believe it has a superior, either as a remedy for catarrh or as a tonic for the depressed and exhausted condition which is one of the effects of the disease.' -Benjamin F. Hawkes.

SAAC BROCK, a citizen of McLen-Signorina Ida de Frate is suing in the health and extreme old age, Mr. Brock am talking about. I have taken it every too much for what you have done for me.

> keeps my blood in good circulation. I am very much pleased with Peruna. have come to rely upon it almost en- am 87 years old."-Mrs. E. West.

tirely for the many little things for which I need medicine.

"When epidemics of la grippe first began to make their appearance in this country I was a sufferer from this dis-

"I had several long sieges with the grip. At first I did not know that Peruna was a remedy for this disease. When I heard that la grippe was epidemic catarrh, I tried Peruna for la grippe, and found it to be just the thing."-Isaac Brock.

Pe-ru-na Used in the Family for Years.

Mrs. E. West, 137 Main street, Menasha, Wis., writes: "We have used Peruna in runa, and how to take care of myself. nan county, Texas, has lived for 114 our family for a number of years and spring and fall for four years and I "Peruna exactly meets all my require- find that it keeps me robust, strong, factory results from the use of Peruna, ments. It protects me from the evil ef- with splendid appetite, and free from any illness. A few years ago it cured full statement of your case and he will fects of sudden changes; it keeps me in me of catarrh of the stomach, which good appetite; it gives me strength; it

Pe-ru-na is a Catarrhal Tonic **Especially Adapted to the Declining Powers of** Old Age.

In old age the mucous membranes become thickened and partly lose their

This leads to partial loss of hearing, smell and taste, as well as digestive disturbances.

Peruna corrects all this by its specific operation on all the mucous membranes

One bottle will convince anyone. Once

used and Peruna becomes a life-long stand-by with old and young. Mrs. F. E. Little, Tolona, Ill., writes:

"I can recommend Peruna as a good medicine for chronic catarrh of the stomach and bowels. I have been troubled se-

A TRAVELER AT SEVENTY-ONE YEARS OF AGE.

verely with it for over a year, and also a cough. Now my cough is all gone, and all the distressing symptoms of catarrh of the stomach and bowels have disappeared. I will recommend it to all as a rare remedy. am so well I am contemplating a trip to Yellow Stone Park this coming season. How is that for one 71 years old?'

In a later letter she says: "I am only too thankful to you for your kind advice and for the good health that I am enjoying wholly from the use of your Peruna. Have been out to the Yellow Stone National Park and many other places of the west, and shall always thank you for your generosity."-Mrs.

Strong and Vigorous at the Age of Eighty-eight.

Rev. J. N. Parker, Utica, N. Y., writes: "In June, 1901, I lost my sense of hearing entirely. My hearing had been somewhat impaired for several years, but not so much affected but that I could hold converse with my friends; but in June, 1901, my sense of hearing left me so that I could hear no sound whatever. I was also troubled with severe rheumatic pains in my limbs. I commenced taking Peruna and now my hearing is restored as good as it was prior to June, 1901. My rheumatic pains are all gone. I cannot speak too highly of Peruna, and now when eighty-eight years old can say it has invigorated my whole system.' -Rev. J. N. Parker.

Mr. W. B. Schnader, of Terre Hill, Pa. writes:

"I got sick every winter, and had a spell of cold in February, 1899, I could not do anything for almost two menths. In December, 1899, I saw one of your books about your remedies. Then I wrote to Dr. Hartman for advice, and he wrote that I should commence the use of Pe-

"I did not lose one day last winter that For the loss of her affianced husband years. In speaking of his good for catarrh and colds, I know what I three years old, and I cannot thank you for catarrh and colds, I know what I If you do not derive prompt and satis-

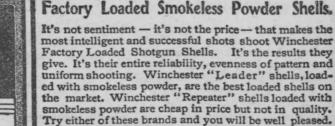
write at once to Dr. Hartman, giving a be pleased to give you his valuable advice gratis.

Address Dr. Hartman, President of The Hartman Sanitarium, Columbus, O.



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